

January 20, 2005

PRESS RELEASE – For Immediate Release

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District Health Calls For “Health Heroes” Nominations

South Central District Health is calling for nominations from the community for **Health Heroes** -- individuals or groups who worked to protect, promote, and enhance the health of southern Idaho citizens during calendar year 2005. Award winners will be honored during Public Health Week, April 3-7. Nominations are due by Wednesday, March 1.

Nominees must be residents of or do business in Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka, or Twin Falls counties. Examples of activities for which individuals or groups may be nominated include, *but are not limited to*, the following categories:

- Promoting a healthy lifestyle through various activities;
- Organizing exercise programs;
- Promoting good nutrition;
- Violence awareness and prevention;
- Disease education and prevention;
- Decreasing the incidence of workplace injuries;
- Working on clean indoor air / water issues;
- Building youth assets; or,
- Keeping children safe and healthy.

Nominations are being accepted in adult, youth, and corporate categories. The “Adult Hero” award will honor an adult individual or group in the community who has made a long-term commitment to improve the health of citizens in south central Idaho. Nominees may work in any field and do not have to be a part of an organization that works in health care. The “Youth Hero” award recognizes a youth (18 years or younger) or youth group in southern Idaho who has worked to improve the health of the community. The “Corporate Hero” award recognizes a business or organization that worked to educate the public about healthy living in 2005.

This is the eighth year South Central District Health has recognized the outstanding contributions to public health made by area individuals and/or groups. Past winners include:

- more -

2005 Health Heroes

Adult Service: Dr. Cynthia Unger, D.D.S., from Hailey, who has led the charge for several years to make sure that elementary school children in Blaine County, specifically 1st and 2nd graders, have dental screenings free of charge at school.

Youth Service: The Kimberly High School Advanced Health Class and their teacher, Jan Hall. The Advanced Health Class students raised \$2,000 to purchase milk vending machines for the Kimberly High School and Middle Schools to provide an alternative to soda.

Corporate Hero: The Body Works gym and fitness club in Buhl, owned by Tracy Hulse and Joan Hurlock. The Body Works is a health-haven to over 200 patrons, including people from Buhl, Castleford, and Filer.

2004 Health Heroes

Adult Service: Reginald “Reggie” Reeves, an attorney with practices in both Ketchum and Idaho Falls, and who helps link people with limited resources to the health services they need.

Youth Service: The Mini-Cassia HealthNet Coalition that made numerous contributions to the communities of Burley and Rupert, including the connection they helped forge between youth and adults.

Corporate Service: Main Motion Dance and Fitness Studio in Oakley, a dance and fitness studio owned by sisters Annalee Elquist and Tasha Payton, that brings a place to exercise to the citizens of this rural community.

2003 Health Heroes

Adult Service: Gooding Police Chief Paul Brown who volunteered his time to the Gooding County HealthNet Coalition, served as a role model in the local Lunch Buddy program, and worked to improve the safety and health of the residents of Gooding.

Youth Service: The Blaine County Teen Advisory Council (BC TAC). Members of the youth group worked with the Blaine County School District to introduce Youth Development Assets into the school system as the character education program and provided Asset education to community members.

Corporate Service: Twin Falls Times-News. The Times-News continuously promotes and supports youth as the community’s most valuable resource.

2002 Health Heroes

Adult Service: Sheri Massie, Twin Falls, an HIV-positive woman who works to inform her community about HIV prevention and about the realities of living with HIV.

Youth Service: Jeremy Ricondo of Rupert. Jeremy was in 10th grade at Minico High School when he received the award. He was the first youth member of the Rupert City Council and is a member of the Mini-Cassia HealthNet Advisory Board.

Corporate Service: The Twin Falls Lions Club. The Lions Club has helped many people in the Twin Falls area, especially children, receive the vision care they would otherwise not be able to afford.

2001 Health Heroes

Adult Service: David McClusky, M.D. Dr. McClusky was recognized for his caring, dedicated work on behalf of the citizens, and especially the youth, of south central Idaho during his long and distinguished medical career.

Youth Service: Shaylee O’Connor, Buhl, was honored for her work with the Magic Valley Tobacco Free Coalition and her efforts to encourage youth to stay tobacco free.

Corporate Service: KMVT Television, for their generous support of the HealthNet Youth Asset Building Initiative. Their contribution of filming and airing youth-generated commercials heightened awareness of HealthNet across southern Idaho.

2000 Health Heroes

Adult Service: Jan Mittleider, Associate Professor of Physical Education and Wellness Coordinator at CSI.

Youth Service: Lauri Bailey and her students at the Cassia County Education Center in Burley.

1999 Health Hero

Corporate Service: Con Paulos and Subway Sandwiches, for providing healthy fast food alternatives.

Nominations must include the nominee’s name, age, gender, address and phone number, as well as the name, address and phone number of the person who is submitting the nomination. Nominations must also include a brief description about why the nominee deserves to be recognized with the **Health Heroes** Award. Forms are available at all South Central District Health offices, or you can print the form from the last page of this press release.

PLEASE RETURN NOMINATION FORMS BY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2006, TO:

**South Central District Health
Attn: Health Heroes Nominations
1020 Washington Street North
Twin Falls, ID 83301**

**FORMS MAY BE PICKED UP OR DROPPED OFF AT ANY
LOCAL SOUTH CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH OFFICE.**

Bellevue	117 East Ash St.	788-4335
Burley	2311 Parke Ave., Unit 4	678-8221
Gooding	145 7 th Ave. East	934-4477
Jerome	951 East Avenue H	324-8838
Rupert	1218 9 th St., Ste. 15	436-7185
Twin Falls	1020 Washington St. N.	734-5900

YOU CAN ALSO PRINT OFF THE FORM ON THE NEXT PAGE.

For more information, call the SCDH Public Information Office at 737-5978.

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SOUTH CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH

2006 HEALTH HEROES

Nomination for an individual or group who worked to protect, promote, and enhance the health of southern Idaho citizens during calendar year 2005.

NOMINEE: _____ Age: _____

Male: _____ Female: _____ Group: _____ Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

NAME OF PERSON SUBMITTING NOMINEE'S NAME: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION:

Please provide a brief description of the activity that you think qualifies the nominee for the 2006 Health Heroes Award. This activity should have been performed or begun in calendar year 2005:
